(b) whether any quota/reservation has been set apart for such employment on compassionate grounds;

(c) whether over the years such reservation/quota has not been given effect to; and

(d) if so, whether Government would ensure that such reservation/ quota is restored and given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) As per extant policy of the Government, there is a scheme to provide appointment on compassionate grounds to one of the dependent family members of a Government servant when he/she dies in harness. For this purpose, appointment can be made upto the maximum of 5% of vacancies falling under direct recruitment quota in any Group-C and Group-D posts.

(c) and (d) The policy of compassionate appointment has been laid down and its implementation is done by the administrative Ministries/ Departments and their Attached/Subordinate offices. Data regarding the utilization of the said 5% vacancies for compassionate appointments is not centrally maintained.

Strike by Employees Federations

1119. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central and the State Government Employees represented by the Confederation of Central Government Employees and Workers (CCGEW) and All India State Government Employees Federation (AISGEF) respectively, had given a call for a one day strike on May 21, 2003 to protest against economic policies of the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the grounds for the strike and their specific demands; and

(c) Government's response and steps taken to avert the strike and to resolve the issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) The Confederation of Central Government Employees & Workers had given a notice that Central Government employees, who are members of the Federations and Associations affiliated to the Confederation, would observe a one day's strike on 21st May, 2003. A Charter of Demands in support of which the notice for strike was given, is enclosed as statement (*See* below).

Matters relating to strikes resorted by employees of the various State Governments are the concern of the respective State Governments and no information on the subject is being maintained centrally.

(c) With the object of promoting harmonious relations and of securing the greatest measures of cooperation between the Government, in its capacity as employer, and the general body of its employees, Government had, in consulation with the Staff Side, established in 1966 the scheme for Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration for Central Government employees. Under this scheme, a well-defined machinery already exists to settle matters of common concern, including service conditions of employees and other related issues, through the process of negotiation and arbitration. Such of the issues raised in the Charater of Demands, which are covered by the above Scheme, can be considered through this mechanism as and when, the Staff Side give an agenda item thereon.

Statement

Federation of Central Government Employees & Workers
D-7, Samru Place, Mandir Marg, New Delhi-110001

6th May, 2003

Enclosure to letter addressed to the Cabinet Secretary, dated 6th May, 2003

Charater of demands.

1. Halt to privatization of profit-making potentially viable Public Sector Undertaking.

2. No charge in the labour laws in favour of the employees and against the interest of the workers.

3. Immediate enactment of comprehensive legislation for agricultural workers.

4. No to policies leading servere aggravation of joblessness and unemployment.

5. Widen comprehensive social security shemes for all including workers in unorganized sectors and to Gramin Dak Sevaks.

6. Restoration of quantitative restriction on imports.

7. Amendments of Payment Bonus Act by removing all ceiling.

8. Restoration of 12% interest rates on PF deposits.

9. Stop privatization and downsizing of the Government departments on the basis of the recommendation of the Expenditure Reforms and Dr. Vijay Kelkar Committees.

10. Stop abolition of vacant posts and ban on recruitment.

11. Stop curtailment of the existing economic benefits like DA, Pension etc.

12. Reverse the disastrous anti-worker economic policies.

13. Stop attack on Trade Union and Democratic rights and stop engaging contract and fixed pay workers-employees.

14. Withdrawal of Postal Bill to avoid privatization of Postal Services.

Retention Period of Category 'C' Documents in Ministries/ Departments

1120. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether category 'C' documents of Ministries/Departments/ Instrumentalities of Central Government are not maintained/preserved after expiry of stipulated period of ten years;